

Governor's Forest Health Council
Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body

Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE –
Governor's Forest Health Council

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

January 13th, 2011
9am –2pm
Maricopa Community Colleges SBDC
2400 N. Central Ave., Suite 102
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Tele Conference Number: 1.877.336.1828
Access Code: 9978608

Minutes (Draft)

1. Call to Order ~ 9:08a.m. Co-Chair, Molly Pitts

Members Present:

Co-Chair Ethan Aumack, Co-Chair Molly Pitts, Larry Stephenson for Mark Herrington, Diane Vosick, Wally Covington, Scott Hunt, Rob Smith, Don Berry, Rob Davis, Todd Schulke, Pascal Berlioux, and Darrell Willis.

Members via Tele-Conference

Steve Rosenstock, Brenda Burman, Kevin Kinsall

Members Absent:

Don Falk, John Metzger, Michael Neal, Steve Gatewood, Tom Klabunde, Mayor Sara Presler, and Ron Williams

Public:

Christine Dawe, Cam Hunter, Marcus Selig, Mike Smith, Glen Buettner, Ken Iversen, and Stephanie Washington (ACA Staff)

2. Approval of the Minutes from the November FHC Meeting ~ Approved with corrections

- Don Berry moved for approval, Scott Hunt second.
- Minutes approved.

3. Summary of Council business since last FHC meeting ~ Ethan Aumack or Molly Pitts

- Molly did speak with the Deputy State Land Commissioner to go over access fees. No comments received from FHC. The State is working with other agencies to be more consistent across the board.
- Scott states that the increase on land fees is to help with funding. Land Department needs time to process the applications. Possibly emergency reviews can be facilitated.
- Steve states that sometimes applications can take as long as 3 – 5 months.
- Ethan asks when the process will be defined. That has not yet been determined.
- At this time, there is not a need to continue engaging this issue. Scott will apprise the group with a process is in place.

- Kevin – New Members.
 - Pascal Berlioux in process.
 - Potential appointment from SRP
- Would the group be willing to look at the Executive order and look to people to fill those gaps?
- Ethan – suggests a small group to help look to the future of the council:
 - Wally, Scott, Brenda, Don, Molly & Ethan to look for names as well as positions.
 - Send ideas to Kevin within a month or so and communicate via email. 2 weeks to the larger group.
- Christine Dawe – Biofuels – has not been able to get anything as of yet.

4. Update on 4FRI:

- Diane – need to continue seeking broader geographic representations with respect to items on the Agenda.
- Ethan feels we should circulate ourselves around the state in different projects.
- Larry feels that, given the Executive Order, 4FRI should be a standing agenda item.
- Diane – last meeting was in November in Flagstaff and the next meeting is in January in Pinetop.
- Pressing Events –
 - Notice of intent from Forest Service to create workshops to educate.
 - Stakeholders working for large tree
 - Marcus & Sara treatment area portfolios
 - Firescapes
 - MOU – Signature pending
 - Contracts will be available by June or July
- National Forest Foundation to do roundtables
- Molly – many members not actively participating... are there any areas of concern?
- Rob – concerned about the lack of an overarching plan and budget to accommodate treatments across all four national forests involved.
- Molly- Apache/Sitgreaves is moving on with regular NEPA
- Christine – volunteered to have someone from the regional office speak to the FHC regarding budget issues. Brenda – look into having someone from Firescape attend next meeting.

5. Working Session: 2011 FHC Workplan

- Coordination Oversight Group/Climate – Christine Dawe
- Group met in December. Katasha Nikai is leading an overview of the work.
- Utilization & Economic Issues – Molly Pitts
- Have not met yet. Molly to get started right away. Email to go out 1/14/11 to get started. First task is to look at the state incentives.
- ARRA update. (both state and federal) – Glen
- Any funding allocated for monitoring? Steve needs to look into it as he is not sure. Scott's office is hiring some project specialists for monitoring.
 - Steve – money is set aside for getting work done and not so much for monitoring.
 - Wood to Energy signed by State Forester last year. Time line is December 2009 – July 2011.
 - 105 participants thus far.
 - Presentation on harvest/utilization study in Prescott area.
- Forest Plan Revisions – Diane Vosick
 - Need to integrate FHC recommendations within Forest Plans over the coming months – informed by discussion and update regarding forest plans at March meeting.
- Smoke Issues – Marcus – haven't met yet.
 - 4 objectives:
 - Expand the number of burnable days
 - Increase public tolerance
 - Reduce the exceeding of federal air quality standards
 - Right to burn legislation

- Also look at data from wildfire burns vs. prescribed fires.
- Interaction with WGA – Todd Schulke
 - WGA is in a transition phase at this time.
 - Recommendations from the landscape-scale restoration workshop have been accepted by the WGA.
 - Ethan to circulate document to group. Has not received final endorsement though therefore not a final document yet.
- Funding – Brenda Burman
 - Letter to governor is still in process
 - Budget to be released in next 3 weeks
 - Discussion regarding 4FRI and FLRA
- Fire Management – wasn't established as a small group
 - Scott - created a goal and set forth a work plan to include Darrell & Pascal.
 - Scott – should be an announcement in the next 30 days regarding the State Forester position.
 - Biomass position – still interviewing should make an offer in the week or so.
- Education – bring Formal or all groups to incorporate? Tabled this meeting until a specific need arises.
- Wally – can provide substantial staff support when educational needs arise.

6. Call to the Public *

- Christine Dawe presented 3 upcoming activities:
 - AZ Water Tour (Feb 16-18)
 - Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Large Landscape Conservation Practitioner's group
 - NM WUI Summit agenda
- Please contact Christine if interested in attending.

7. Meeting Schedule and Locations

- Tentative Calendar for 2011:
 - March 10 – Phoenix
 - May 12 - Prescott
 - July 14 - North
 - September 8 - North
 - November 10 – CSA or Tucson

**This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.*

8. Adjournment 12:15 p.m.

Dated this March 7th, 2011

Governor's Forest Health Council
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

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CO-CHAIRS

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust

Molly Pitts – Northern Arizona Wood Products Association